

# **MICHIGAN COMMISSION ON SERVICES TO THE AGING MEETING**

**Michigan Department of Health and Human Services**

**Aging and Adult Services Agency**

**300 E. Michigan Ave., 3<sup>rd</sup> Fl.; Lansing, MI 48933**

**January 15, 2016 @9:00 AM**

## **MINUTES**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner Wishart called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Commissioner Ilardo.

### **COMMISSION ROLL CALL**

The Commission roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

### **COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT**

Dona Wishart, Douglas Chalgian, Joan Ilardo, Gerald Irby, Kathleen LaTosch, Harold Mast, Donna Murray-Brown, Richard Ortega, Michael Sheehan and Kristie Zamora, with Matthew Adeyanju joining via conference call.

### **COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT** (excused)

Michael Burri, Sibyl Ellis, Renee' Reid-Smith and Jeffery Schade.

### **AGING AND ADULT SERVICES AGENCY (AASA) STAFF PRESENT**

Scott Wamsley, Steve Betterly, Dan Doezeema, Carol Dye, Gloria Lanum, Phil Lewis, Laura McMurtry, Wendi Middleton, Becky Payne, with Kari Sederburg and Sarah Slocum joining via conference call.

### **VISITORS/GUESTS PRESENT**

None.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Commissioner Wishart asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

A motion was made by Commissioner Irby to approve the agenda. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion. This motion was approved unanimously with a voice vote.

### **APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES**

Commissioner Wishart asked for a motion to approve the November 16, 2015, minutes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Sheehan to approve the minutes. Commissioner Ilardo seconded the motion. This motion was approved unanimously with a voice vote.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

### **COMMISSION CHAIR REPORT**

Commissioner Wishart stated she toured the new School of Social Work building at Wayne State University, noting this seemed to put the social work team in the center of things on campus.

Commissioner Wishart stated she received information on a pending merger between Time Warner and Charter Communications, and part of the plan deals with if this goes through, there may be programs for low income older adults for access to broadband internet.

Commissioner Wishart stated it has been suggested to add structure and goals to the Commission's advocacy work, noting additional information will follow at the next meeting.

### **AGING AND ADULT SERVICES AGENCY (AASA) DIRECTOR REPORT**

Director Sederburg addressed Flint's water situation, noting the wonderful job Flint Valley AAA has done to get bottled water and water filters to their vulnerable older adults, acting call center, and to Steve Betterly, AASA's emergency management coordinator, who has been in ongoing communications with others involved.

Mr. Betterly provided an overview of Flint's current water situation, and ongoing activities.

Chairperson Wishart suggested Director Sederburg and Mr. Betterly to compose a letter of acknowledgement for the service provided by Valley AAA and the work being done by Michigan State Police, to communicate thanks and concern so they understand the Commission's awareness, and Commissioners agreed.

Commissioner Zamora asked if a map of the hot spots was available for review.

Mr. Betterly stated he would look into it and send if it's available, adding his understanding is Flint zip codes ending in 03 and 04 have tended to be where the heaviest contamination is occurring.

Ms. Slocum added early on, the local Ombudsman reached out to all facilities in Genesee County to make sure they were providing adequate, safe water to their residents.

Commissioner Chalgian asked if those on the waiting list for Home and Community Based serves have been shared with the State Police.

Mr. Betterly stated he would check with Valley AAA on that.

Commissioner LaTosch inquired about the increased rate of Legionnaire's Disease in Flint.

Director Sederburg stated MDHHS received a report on this issue, and are investigating with epidemiologists to determine if there's a relation between the water and this disease.

Additional discussion followed, and Mr. Betterly left for a briefing call, noting he would return with additional information and to field additional questions.

Director Sederburg stated 2016 will be a year of transition with AASA's Deputy Director's departure at the end of October, noting interviews should be completed soon, and she

hopes to have a new deputy hired by the end of February. As well, the Elder Abuse and Wellness manager also departed for another department, and those responsibilities will be reviewed and transitioned to ensure those programs continue to run smoothly. And finally, the SLTCO secretary also left for another job opportunity.

Director Sederburg stated AASA continues to work with the contracting office department on the SLTCO Ombudsmen RFP, to get it ready to go out, noting the goal is to start it in FY17.

Director Sederburg stated the State's revenue conference ended on a positive note, and stated the Governor's budget should be coming out the first of February, noting AASA will likely not see funding increases, while not suffering any cuts. With the \$5 million added to address the Governor's No Wait State initiative, AASA had estimated about 4,500 people would be able to be served with those additional dollars, and thanks to the aging network, we're at about 6,000 served. The issue is there's so much need, the waiting list numbers continue to grow, not on the home delivered meals side, but on the in home services side.

Director Sederburg announced the State of the State is scheduled for Tuesday, January 19, at 7:00 PM.

Director Sederburg stated the former Department of Community Health director James Haveman, approached AASA regarding senior-related phone scams and suggested there be public service announcements around that. AASA worked with the larger department's communications office and the announcements just wrapped up. Director Sederburg offered to send the clip and a report on where the ads ran in the state.

Director Sederburg stated the Secretary of State launched an aging driver's website, <http://michigan.gov/agingdriver/>, that provides guidance on how to approach individuals who may need to start thinking about giving up their keys and driving.

Director Sederburg stated Ms. Middleton will provide an update on the LEAN process improvement plan she's been working on, and the BOLD Council's activities.

### **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Phil Lewis provided a handout and updates on current and ongoing legislative issues, including House Bill 5078 to parole medically frail prisoners into healthcare facilities, and the senior scam campaign that ran from December 21, 2015, through January 10, 2016.

### **FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Scott Wamsley, Technical Assistance, Support and Compliance (TASC) Division Director, provided FY15 service expenditure and administrative expenditure handouts and updates.

The Commission took a break at 10:00 AM, and resumed business at 10:08 AM.

### **BUSINESS ITEMS**

#### **Request for Approval of the Harbor Country Application for Community For a Lifetime (CFL) Recognition**

Dan Doezema, AASA staff, provided geographical information on Harbor Country in Berrien County, and noted Commissioner Reid-Smith's active role in their CFL initiative.

Mr. Doezenia requested approval of the Harbor Country application for CFL recognition.

Additional discussion followed, and Commissioner Mast moved that the motion be made on behalf of Commissioner Renee' Reid-Smith, to approve the Harbor Country application for CFL recognition, as presented. Commissioner Murray-Brown seconded the motion.

This motion was approved unanimously with a voice vote.

**Request for Approval of Title VII-A Federal Ombudsman Funding**

Sarah Slocum, AASA's State Long Term Care Ombudsman Director, stated this annual Title VII-A Older American Act federal funding will be distributed to AAAs to supplement and enhance the work of their local long term care ombudsman.

Ms. Slocum requested approval of Title VII-A Federal Ombudsman funding.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ortega to approve the Title VII-A Federal Ombudsman funding, as presented. Commissioner Ilardo seconded the motion.

This motion was approved with a 10-0-0 vote.

**Request for Approval of Local Long Term Care Ombudsman (LTCO) Mentoring and Training**

Ms. Slocum stated this Title VII-A grant will be use to contract and hire an experienced Long Term Care Ombudsman who will provide training and assistance to statewide local long term care ombudsman through 1:1 mentoring and facility visits with newer ombudsman. As well, they will apply and use a nationally developed curriculum to educate residents, families and facility staff to highlight urinary tract infections that are often misdiagnosed as dementia, noting funds will be expended once this is put out to bid and a contractor is awarded.

Ms. Slocum requested approval of local LTCO Mentoring and Training.

A motion was made by Commissioner Irby to approve of local LTCO mentoring and training, as presented. Commissioner Zamora seconded the motion.

Commissioner Ilardo asked if the national curriculum is only intended for the ombudsman, or if this might be available to nursing professors to help her with to train more folks through the Geriatrics Education Center.

Ms. Slocum stated she will ask her national partners what their distribution plan is, but assumes they will be willing to share it.

This motion was approved with a 10-0-0 vote.

**Request for Approval of Revisions to State Long Term Care Ombudsman (SLTCO) Policies and Procedures**

Ms. Slocum stated this Title VII-A grant will be awarded to a grantee that will be determined based on bids, to review existing policies and procedures to revise the SLTCO policies and

procedures so they align and comply with the new Federal regulations that will go into effect in July of 2016.

Ms. Slocum requested approval of revisions to SLTCO policies and procedures.

A motion was made by Commissioner Sheehan to approve revisions to SLTCO policies and procedures, as presented. Commissioner Ilardo seconded the motion.

This motion was approved with a 10-0-0 vote.

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

#### **Update Previously Approved Funding/Grants on Associated Ongoing Activities**

Ms. Slocum provided an update on the progress of SLTCO RFP.

Mr. Wamsley provided an update on the RFP process to select a new sponsor for the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), noting Valley AAA was awarded that bid.

#### **Other**

Mr. Betterly stated there's been no confirmed connection with the Legionnaire's Disease outbreak in Flint and their water, and he provided possible side effects lead may have on senior citizens.

Director Sederburg stated a committee assigned to address the Flint water situation has been established and she has a list of members that she can provide.

Ms. Middleton provided an update on the ongoing LEAN process to coordinate, integrate and streamline identified systemic efforts of the long term care supports and services programs administered by and through several state departments and agencies.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next Commission on Services to the Aging meeting is tentatively scheduled for Friday, February 19, 2015, at 9:00 AM at the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Aging and Adult Services Agency, at this same location. These meetings are open to the public, and those needing accommodations should contact Ms. Dye at least five days prior to the meeting date.

The next State Advisory Council on Aging meeting will be held at 9:30 AM on Thursday, March 17, 2016, at the Ramada Hotel and Conference Center on W. Saginaw in Lansing. Commissioner Irby volunteered to attend and represent the Commission.

### **ADJOURN**

Commissioner Wishart adjourned the meeting at 10:54 AM.